

Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines

Vaccine	Contraindications	Precautions ¹
Hepatitis B (HepB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Infant weighing less than 2000 grams²
Rotavirus (RV5 [RotaTeq], RV1 [Rotarix])	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Immunosuppression Preexisting gastrointestinal disease Previous history of intussusception
Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (DTaP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, and prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of administration of previous dose of DTP or DTaP Progressive neurologic disorder, including infantile spasms, uncontrolled epilepsy, progressive encephalopathy: defer DTaP until neurologic status clarified and stabilized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Temperature of 105° or higher (40.5° C or higher) within 48 hours after vaccination with a previous dose of DTP or DTaP Collapse or shock-like state (i.e., hypotonic hyporesponsive episode) within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP Seizure within 3 days after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP³ Persistent, inconsolable crying lasting 3 or more hours within 48 hours after receiving a previous dose of DTP/DTaP Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine History of Arthus-type hypersensitivity reactions following a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine: defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the last tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine
Tetanus, diphtheria (DT, Td)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever GBS within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine History of Arthus-type hypersensitivity reactions following a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine: defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the last tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine
Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (Tdap)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Encephalopathy (e.g., coma, decreased level of consciousness, and prolonged seizures) not attributable to another identifiable cause within 7 days of administration of previous dose of DTP, DTaP, or Tdap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever GBS within 6 weeks after a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine Progressive or unstable neurologic disorder, uncontrolled seizures or progressive encephalopathy until a treatment regimen has been established and the condition has stabilized History of Arthus-type hypersensitivity reactions following a previous dose of tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine: defer vaccination until at least 10 years have elapsed since the last tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b (Hib)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Age younger than 6 weeks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pregnancy Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Influenza, injectable trivalent (TIV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever History of GBS within 6 weeks of previous TIV
Influenza, live attenuated (LAIV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Pregnancy Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., hematologic and solid tumors; receiving chemotherapy; congenital immunodeficiency; long-term immunosuppressive therapy⁴; or patients with HIV infection who are severely immunocompromised) Certain chronic medical conditions⁵ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever History of GBS within 6 weeks of previous influenza vaccination

Adapted from "Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines" found in: CDC. General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2006; 55(No. RR-15).

Guide to Contraindications and Precautions to Commonly Used Vaccines (continued)

Vaccine	Contraindications	Precautions ¹
Pneumococcal (PCV or PPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR)⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Pregnancy Known severe immunodeficiency (e.g., hematologic and solid tumors; receiving chemotherapy; congenital immunodeficiency; long-term immunosuppressive therapy⁴; or patients with HIV infection who are severely immunocompromised) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product)⁷ History of thrombocytopenia or thrombocytopenic purpura
Varicella (Var)⁶	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Substantial suppression of cellular immunity Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Recent (within 11 months) receipt of antibody-containing blood product (specific interval depends on product)⁷
Hepatitis A (HepA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Pregnancy
Human papilloma-virus (HPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever Pregnancy
Meningococcal, conjugate (MCV4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever History of GBS (if not at high risk for meningococcal disease)
Meningococcal, polysaccharide (MPSV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever
Zoster (Zos)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe allergic reaction (e.g., anaphylaxis) after a previous vaccine dose or to a vaccine component Primary cellular or acquired immunodeficiency, including leukemia, lymphomas, or other malignant neoplasms affecting the bone marrow or lymphatic system; AIDS or other clinical manifestations of HIV, including persons with CD4+ T-lymphocyte values ≤ 200 per mm³ or $\leq 15\%$ of total lymphocytes; current immunosuppressive therapy⁴; clinical or laboratory evidence of other unspecified cellular immunodeficiency; receipt of recombinant hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; current receipt of recombinant human immune mediators and immune modulators, especially the antitumor necrosis factor agents adalimumab, infliximab, and etanercept Pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate or severe acute illness with or without fever

Footnotes

- Events or conditions listed as precautions should be reviewed carefully. Benefits of and risks for administering a specific vaccine to a person under these circumstances should be considered. If the risk from the vaccine is believed to outweigh the benefit, the vaccine should not be administered. If the benefit of vaccination is believed to outweigh the risk, the vaccine should be administered. Whether and when to administer DTaP to children with proven or suspected underlying neurologic disorders should be decided on a case-by-case basis.
- Hepatitis B vaccination should be deferred for infants weighing less than 2000 g if the mother is documented to be hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg)-negative at the time of the infant's birth. Vaccination can commence at chronological age 1 month. For infants born to HBsAg-positive women, hepatitis B immunoglobulin and hepatitis B vaccine should be administered at or soon after birth, regardless of weight.
- Acetaminophen or other appropriate antipyretic can be administered to infants and children with a history of previous seizures at the time of DTaP vaccination and every 4 hours for 24 hours thereafter to reduce the possibility of postvaccination fever (Source: American Academy of Pediatrics. *Red Book: Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases*, 2006: page 512).
- Substantially immunosuppressive steroid dose is considered to be 2 weeks or more of daily receipt of 20 mg or more (or 2 mg/kg body weight or more) of prednisone or equivalent.
- For details, see CDC. Prevention and Control of Influenza: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm.
- MMR and varicella vaccines can be administered on the same day. If not administered on the same day, these vaccines should be separated by at least 28 days.
- For details, see CDC. General Recommendations on Immunization: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) at www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/ACIP-list.htm.